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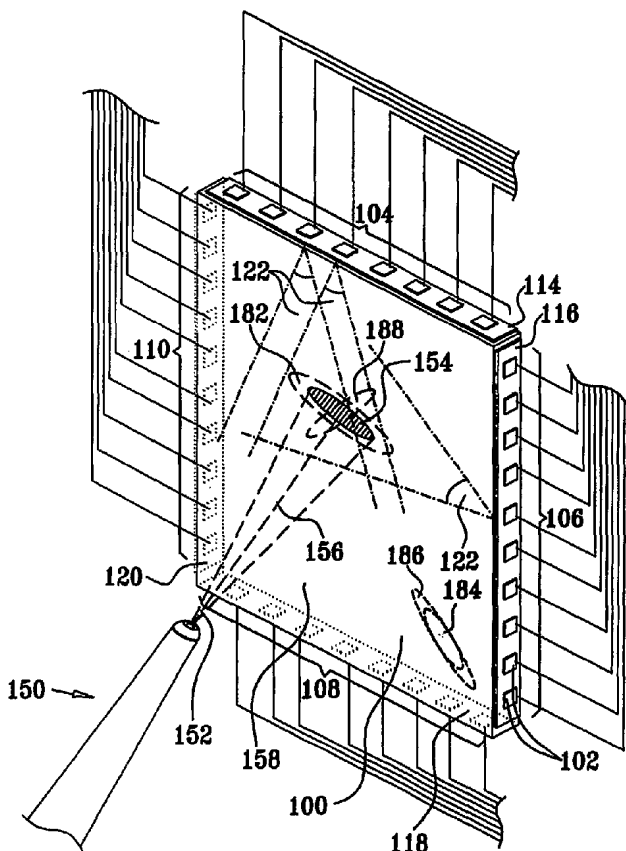
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(54) Title: CONTROL APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An interface including a panel (100) defin-  
ing at least one edge (114, 116, 118, 120) at least one de-  
tector (102) arranged along the at least one edge (114) of  
the panel, an electromagnetic radiation beam emitter (152)  
operative to direct at least one beam of electromagnetic ra-  
diation onto the panel (100) from a variable distance and  
at a variable angle (158), the panel being operative to trans-  
mit electromagnetic radiation from the at least one beam im-  
pinging thereon to the at least one edge (114) thereof, for de-  
tection by the at least one detector; the panel being operative  
to generally attenuate the electromagnetic radiation passing  
therethrough to the at least one edge as a function of the dis-  
tance traveled by the electromagnetic radiation through the  
panel (100), whereby the at least one detector (102) is op-  
erative to provide at least one output which can be used to  
determine the variable distance and the variable angle.

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